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NEMO Newsletter

Department of Teacher Education Publications

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## NEMO News, Volume 2, Issue 1

UNO Library Science Education  
*University of Nebraska at Omaha*

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# NEMO News

An e-newsletter for University of Missouri-Columbia MLS students living in the Nebraska area

SEPTEMBER 19, 2005

Fall Semester 2005

Volume 2, Number 1



## Welcome Back

And we're off! The beginning of the new semester means the starting line for some, and the finish line for others. The rest of us are somewhere in the pack between!

Regardless of what place we find ourselves, we are all on the same team with the same final destination. To foster camaraderie, it is my hope to have this newsletter be a "meeting place" where all can come for support, whatever the need might be. Perhaps just some information, perhaps to meet faculty members or each other, ask some questions, or share your knowledge.

Tell me what you would like to see develop and I will do my best to make it possible!

## New Features

**Faculty Focus and Student Spotlight.** Each month one faculty member and 2 graduate students will answer the same, in-depth, thought provoking, unbelievably profound, profile questions.

**I wish I would've known that/I'd sure like to know.** Share your hard won knowledge and ask for help from others that have "been there, done that". Email Joyce at [jkm84@mizzou.edu](mailto:jkm84@mizzou.edu) and watch for this section in next month's letter.

*"As a general rule, librarians are a kick in the pants socially, often full of good humor, progressive, and, naturally, well read."*

*Bill Hall  
(As quoted in  
American Libraries,  
January 2002, p. 44)*



## PARTY!!!



### **All Are Invited**

All current and former Pasco-era library science students are invited to drinks and snacks at Dr. Pasco's home.  
6217 Tanglewood Circle  
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
September 29, 2005

It is the Thursday evening of the upcoming NLA/NEMA conference, but come whether or not you attend the conference! Grab this chance to relax with your friends, colleagues, and faculty members for awhile.

*Books support us in  
our solitude and keep  
us from being a burden  
to ourselves. ~Jeremy  
Collier*



## NLA/NEMA Conference

September 28 – 30, 2005  
Lincoln, Nebraska



<http://www.papillion.ne.us/~nla-nema2005/>

Be sure to register at the Student Rate !!

## Faculty Focus

Dr. Pasco has graciously "volunteered" to be the first faculty focus.

### **Q: What is your education/library/professional background?**

I've always worked in libraries of some sort since I was old enough to stamp a card. I worked in public libraries in southeast Nebraska when I was growing up, academic libraries when I was attending various colleges to help with tuition, and I directed school libraries during much of my K-12 tenure. I have a B.S. in Secondary Education, and an MLS and a PhD from Emporia State University in Kansas.

### **Q: What is on your reading list? What are your favorites/your recommended/your want to read lists?**

I love forensic mysteries and read them, or I should say, listen to them, in droves (which means that yes, I also love to watch CSI). Some of my favorites authors of this genre are Patricia Cornwell, Kathy Reichs, Jeffrey Deaver and Iris Johanssen.

### **Q: What do you do in your "down time"? Your hobbies/recreation, how do you relax?**

I love the outdoors. I am an avid golfer and love to walk and bike and work in my flower beds with my bulldogs, Ruby and Pearl. My partner, Mary, and I love to travel and when we do - it always involves an ocean.

### **Q: What deep dark secret would you like to share?**

I hate coconut. I am acrophobic. I always drive a little over the speed limit.

### **Q: Name one of your personal or professional qualities that make you, or will make you, a leader in 21st century library and information centers.**

I am a critical thinker. I am a social activist. I am a reflective practitioner. I lead by example.

*To read without  
reflecting is like eating  
without digesting.*

*~Edmund Burke*



### **Q: What advice do you have for current Graduate Students?**

Work hard to balance life and work and school. You're in charge of your life whether it feels like it or not. I literally mark out days on my calendar so that I have time to play and rest - if I don't do that, I see an empty slot in my calendar and fill it without thinking - so mark out time for yourself and others on your calendars too! Don't take too many classes at a time - take what your life allows. Talk to Dr. Pasco OFTEN to make sure you're on track in your educational journey!

### **Q: What do you see as key future trends and challenges in LIS?**

Libraries and information centers have NO future if library schools don't produce library professionals who can clearly articulate their missions to their communities and back up the talk with meaningful and direct action. We need confident, caring and committed folks who love libraries and will do whatever it takes to guide them through the dramatic social, economic and political changes that lie ahead.

### **Q: What do you think will be your legacy in this profession?**

I want to be remembered as a hard-working, compassionate human being who did everything she could to produce positive and proactive leaders for Nebraska libraries.

### **Q: Any Last Words?**

It's nice to be important - but it's more important to be nice. (don't know the author - but I love the words).

## **Student Spotlight**

Thanks to Ben Brick and Laura England for taking time out of their very busy schedules to let us get to know them better.

### **Ben :**

#### **Q: What is your education/library/professional background?**

B.S in Bible and Humanities, Grace College of the Bible  
B.A. in History, University of Nebraska at Omaha

I have worked for the Omaha Public Library (both part and full time) since September 6, 1986.

#### **Q: What is on your reading list? What are your favorites/your recommended/your want to read lists?**

With Reference class and Comps, I have very little time to read right now. When I make time, I am currently reading, *Heresies: Heresy and Orthodoxy in the History of the Church* by Harold O.J. Brown. I also will make time for whatever the latest *Star Wars* novel or paperback is.

*What is more  
important in a library  
than anything else -  
than everything else  
- is the fact that it  
exists. ~Archibald  
MacLeish, "The  
Premise of Meaning,"  
American Scholar, 5  
June 1972*



**Q: What do you do in your “down time”? Your hobbies/recreation, how do you relax?**

I watch television, listen to the radio, read, or play video games. I hope to do some relaxing after graduation.

**Q: What deep dark secret would you like to share?**

What? Is this question for blackmailing me later when I am rich and famous? Oh wait, I am studying library science. There will be little fame or fortune where I am heading.

**Q: Name one of your personal or professional qualities that make you, or will make you, a leader in 21st century library and information centers.**

I believe that my ability to communicate, and the value I place upon communication, is an important quality for leaders to possess in today's libraries. We must be able to communicate within our profession in order to build understanding and cooperation. We must communicate with our communities in order to demonstrate that we are relevant and valuable. We also must communicate with those in charge in order to guide them into understanding what we need in order to function properly in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Q: What advice do you have for current Graduate Students?**

Hang in there. It will be all worthwhile in the end. You will not only have the piece of paper you need to prove you can do the work, but the tools and skills in order to do the work well. And take the time to appreciate your professors; they really do know what they are talking about, even Budd. I know. What a kiss-up!

**Q: What do you see as key future trends and challenges in LIS?**

One challenge is salary. Given what most libraries are paying at all position levels, this is not an attractive field into which to go. We, as library professionals, need to sell our civic leaders on the value we bring to the community in order to be paid a competitive wage. We also need to do the things we are selling the leaders on as well. Unfortunately, one trend is that libraries are seeing their budgets cut, because we are viewed as expensive alternatives to Google. So this presents another challenge. A positive trend is that despite this, the libraries are slowly beginning to respond to the challenges in creative ways that bodes well for our future. We just need to keep it up!

**Q: What do you think will be your legacy in this profession?**

Besides the imprint I will leave behind in my chair, I would like to think that I will have made positive changes that provide lasting value to the libraries, and the lives, I touch. Plus a nice impressive building named after me would be cool.

**Q: Any Last Words?**

Not today. I don't plan on dying just yet.

**Laura :**

**Q: What is your education/library/professional background?**

I started my library education early – helping my mother put cards & pockets in the books for her libraries at Field Club & Vinton back in the 70's. When I graduated with my BS in theatre arts (in 1991!), I came back to Omaha and

*One sure window into a  
person's soul is his  
reading list. - Mary B.  
W. Tabor*



worked with the Shakespeare Festival. After that gig ended, I went to work part-time at the Bellevue Public Library in tech services as a clerk. My supervisor let me help with a retro-conversion project, which got me hooked on cataloging. I still want to be a cataloger when I grow up!

After Bellevue, I wandered around book-type places before ending up at Metro Community College's Library Services (administrative) offices. I spent six years there, and learned a little bit about a lot. I was re-introduced to working the desk, and helping field reference questions. When I finally decided to go back to school in the summer of 2002, I knew I'd found the place I belong.

I recently started a new job as the Assistant Director at the Keene Memorial Library in Fremont. It's been wonderful so far and I'm finding ways to use all sorts of things that I've learned over the years.

**Q: What is on your reading list? What are your favorites/your recommended/your want to read lists?**

My reading list is huge – but it's all for Information Policy and Adult Services! ☺ Seriously – I love mysteries/vampire lore. Favorite authors include Laurie R. King, Laurell K. Hamilton, and Caleb Carr. One of my all-time favorite reads was *Siddhartha* by Hesse. Heady stuff but there's a lot to get out of the book if you let it read you instead of the other way around. And I'm also a Harry Potter fan – books more than the movies, but the movies are great too. I haven't started *Half-Blood Prince* yet (have to keep something as a reward for getting final projects in on time!!) so if we're having a conversation and it comes up, don't be hurt if I turn away quickly and start humming. It's only because I want to be surprised!

**Q: What do you do in your "down time"? Your hobbies/recreation, how do you relax?**

Down time. What's that? Oh wait... I do sit and play with the two very spoiled cats who allow me to live in their house. Once in a while I play in the flower beds. And on some very rare occasions, I get together with friends and go out for dinner/to a movie/shopping, anything at all as long as we're having fun.

**Q: What deep dark secret would you like to share?**

Dr. Budd's classes aren't as scary as I thought they would be, and I think Dr. Seavey (aka "the prof") is a hoot.

**Q: Name one of your personal or professional qualities that make you, or will make you, a leader in 21st century library and information centers.**

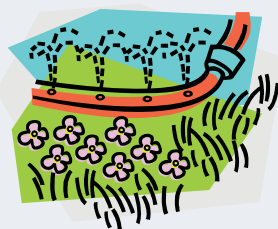
I don't take no for an answer, I listen and paraphrase what I've heard to be sure I understand the other person, and I always remember there's very little I can do that can't be fixed by a sincere apology and/or the magic keystrokes Edit-Undo.

**Q: What advice do you have for current Graduate Students?**

Don't wait as long as I did to ask for help in the form of student loans. I was living hand-to-mouth for a while before a friend took me by the hand and said "Just apply for the loans so you can go out to eat once in a while without searching for change in the couch cushions." Get into good study habits early – it'll save you a lot of heartache. I wish I could say mine are well-formed and consistent. They're not. But I've also learned that I work well under pressure. If you're like that, do the research ahead of time, be comfortable with working at your own (sometimes frantic) pace and you'll be much happier.

*If you have a garden  
and a library, you have  
everything you need.*

*~Cicero*



If you're the type who has to have everything done two weeks in advance, bless you. I'd say ease up but that would stress you out as much as my being told to work ahead! So I guess you can just sit back and relax and enjoy the weekend movie marathons...

### **Q: What do you see as key future trends and challenges in LIS?**

Digitization, metadata and the future of MARC/CORC/Dublin Core/XML. Can you tell I'm focused on cataloging?? We've only begun to see how the Patriot Act, CIPA and other privacy issues affect all kinds of libraries. Technology will remain at the forefront of our concerns – especially given the issues of privacy and security in wireless environments.

### **Q: What do you think will be your legacy in this profession?**

I think I said I wanted to change the face of librarianship when I wrote my admission essay. I suppose that's still true – I like to break molds and be different - but now I have loftier goals. I want my own action figure, just like Nancy Pearl... Bookgirl, faster than a SQL command, stronger than the foil-backed label adhesive, able to scan multiple barcodes in less than a minute...

### **Q: Any Last Words?**

Always be a professional no matter where you are. It'll pay off in so many ways – you never know who your future boss will be talking to when your name comes up!

Remember you're more than your title – don't be so invested in making a living that you don't have time to live. Be serious about the work, but never take it or yourself too seriously. Life's too short ☺

## **Important Dates**

**Oct 1  
2005** **WS2006 application deadline for  
Masters in Library Science or  
Educational Technology**

**Oct 24  
2005 -  
Nov 15  
2005** **WS2006 Early Registration**

**Oct 29  
2005** **Library Science Fall 2005 Comps  
Week**

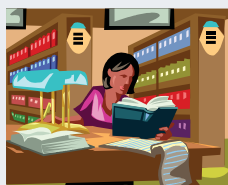
**Oct 31  
2005** Last day to withdraw from a  
FS2005 course

**Dec 16  
2005** Fall semester ends

**Dec 16  
2005** Graduate School Commencement 7:00pm Mizzou Arena



*Nutrimendum spiritus  
(food for the soul).  
~Berlin Royal  
Library, inscription*



## Commencement

*This site has all the information that you need to prepare for the commencement ceremony in December and May – ordering regalia, where to stay, parking, etc.*

<http://www.missouri.edu/~grads/gradpro.htm>

## Practicum Applications

For those who are planning on completing a practicum during the Winter 2006 semester, please see the information below. If you haven't already done so, you will need to contact Dr. Becky Pasco at [rpasco@mail.unomaha.edu](mailto:rpasco@mail.unomaha.edu) in order to arrange your practicum.

Following are the important steps for the practicum process.

1. **Contact Dr. Pasco** and tell her what semester you want to complete your practicum and what type of library you are interested in. You will need to apply for the practicum during early registration for that semester. For instance, to complete a practicum in Winter 2006, you will need to apply for your practicum during early registration this semester (Fall 2005).
2. Also discuss how many hours/credits you will want to complete. She will handle all of the initial contacts with potential libraries/supervising librarians.
3. Decide which of the two practica courses you need to take. Course 7380 is Practicum in School Libraries and Course 7381 is Practicum in Information Agencies (Public, Academic, or Special Libraries).
4. Make sure that you have taken the prerequisite courses. The courses required for each of the practica are different, so check the guide for the appropriate course – School Libraries (7380) or Information Agencies (7381). These guides are available at [http://sislt.missouri.edu/practicum\\_faq.html](http://sislt.missouri.edu/practicum_faq.html) - scroll down to the bottom of the page to find the appropriate links. If you will be taking a prerequisite course during the semester of your practicum, check with the practicum coordinator.
5. Once the supervising librarian agrees to host you as a practicum student, Dr. Pasco will give you the appropriate contact information. You can then contact the librarian and set up an initial meeting to discuss what you will do during your practicum.
6. Either before or after you meet with your supervising librarian, you may turn in your Practicum Application to the appropriate Practicum Coordinator.

### Contact information for 7380:

Linda Esser  
[EsserL@missouri.edu](mailto:EsserL@missouri.edu)  
573-882-1023

### Practicum Coordinator for 7381:

Anita Phipps  
[Randaph@aol.com](mailto:Randaph@aol.com)  
573-446-8716





7. Your Practicum Coordinator will approve your practicum application and will give you permission to enroll in your practicum.
8. In addition to your application, you will need to submit a learning plan for your practicum. This document will describe your learning objectives and projects that you will complete at your location. More detail about learning plan requirements is provided in your practicum guide. If you have trouble writing your learning plan, don't worry! E-mail your Practicum Coordinator, Dr. Pasco, or the current grad assistant (the practicum coordinators are very helpful, so don't be afraid to send them and outline or draft of your learning plan – they can offer suggestions).
9. Once you have completed your learning plan, send a copy to your practicum coordinator via e-mail. You will receive a response – it will either pass approval or you will be told what to change/add. If applicable, send the revised copy to your coordinator.
10. Once the coordinator approves your learning plan, you and your supervising librarian will need to sign and date the form. You will then send the signed form to your practicum coordinator.
11. You're done with application process!

*Please contact Joyce Keber at [jskm84@mizzou.edu](mailto:jskm84@mizzou.edu) if you have any questions about the practicum process.*

## Scholarships

### NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION: LOUISE A. NIXON SCHOLARSHIP

<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/scholarship.htm>

**DEADLINE: APRIL 15, 2005**

BASIC REQUIREMENTS *(see complete list on the scholarship web site):*

1. Accepted into an ALA accredited graduate school of library/information science
2. Must meet one of the following criteria:
  - a) Resident of Nebraska for at least one year.
  - b) Member of NLA for at least one year.
  - c) Employee, past or present, of a Nebraska library for at least one year.

### NEBRASKA EDUCATIONAL MEDIA ASSOCIATION: DUANE MUNSON SCHOLARSHIP

<http://nema.k12.ne.us/mem.dir/award.html#Anchor-INFORMATION-35326>

**DEADLINE: MAY 15, 2005**

The Duane Munson Scholarship has been established for the purpose of helping practicing school library media specialists and paraprofessionals who wish to gain additional professional training in the field on a full or part-time basis.

Requirements of Applicants:

1. Applicant will offer proof of acceptance of study.
2. Applicant must be a member of NEMA for at least one year.



3. Applicant will submit an employment record signed by supervisor.
4. Applicant will submit two letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with the applicant's professional qualifications.
5. Applicant will submit a statement explaining why the training is important, how it will enhance the applicant's professional growth, general educational background, professional activities and educational goals.
6. Applicant will submit an estimate of expenses. Expenses may include tuition, fees, books and travel.

Conditions of Scholarship:

1. Only one scholarship of up to \$250 will be given each year either for summer school or for study during the academic year.
2. Scholarship applicants must be deserving and demonstrate a commitment to Nebraska libraries or educational units. Scholarships will not be awarded to the same person more than once. Scholarships will not be awarded automatically every year if only one person applies.
3. Payment will be made as soon as all the requirements of receiving a scholarship are met.
4. Applications must be received by the NEMA Scholarship Chairman by May 15.
5. A selection committee composed of three representatives will make the final selection and notify applications.
6. A short article for the NEMA NEWS must be written.

**NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION: 21st Century Librarian Scholarship: Master of Library Science**

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/mls/mlsscholarships.html>

**Application Deadlines:** All application materials must be postmarked by:

- March 15 for Summer Semester/Quarter
- May 15 for Fall Semester/Quarter
- November 1 for Winter Semester/Quarter or Spring Quarter

The Nebraska Library Commission established this scholarship to provide financial support to eligible Nebraskans seeking a master of library and/or information science degree. This scholarship fulfills the requirements of the grant awarded to the Nebraska Library Commission by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to recruit and educate the next generation of librarians.

The Nebraska Library Commission will award ten to twenty scholarships of **\$2,500** each year for tuition, course-related materials, and fees associated with the graduate program. Scholarship funds may be used for any ALA-accredited graduate degree program in library and/or information science.

Each applicant can apply for and/or receive only one scholarship of \$2,500 during a one year period from the date of the scholarship award. Scholarship funds may be used for more than one academic semester or quarter. Applicants may receive a maximum of two scholarships during their graduate program. Scholarship funds will be deposited in the

recipient's student account at the library/information science school. The first scholarships will be awarded in Fall 2005 for Winter/Spring coursework.

**To Apply:** Applicant must complete and submit the application form and all required materials.

**Scholarship Award Notification:**

- April 15 for Summer Semester/Quarter
- June 15 for Fall Semester/Quarter
- December 1 for Winter Semester/Quarter or Spring Quarter

**Applicants must meet the following criteria:**

- Current Nebraska residency.
- Demonstrated acceptance by or application to an ALA-accredited graduate degree program in library and/or information science.

**Applicants, after obtaining a graduate degree in library and/or information science, agree to:**

- Seek employment in a Nebraska public, school, institutional, academic, tribal, or special library in a professional librarian.
- Be willing to serve as a formal library mentor for 12 months in the Nebraska Library Commission's mentoring program after obtaining a graduate degree in library and/or information science.
- Be available for follow-up interviews by the Nebraska Library Commission for scholarship program evaluation.

## NEMO NEWS CONTACT INFORMATION



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